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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH

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WHAT THE SOVIET PEOPLE ARE BEING TOLD THROUGH THE SOVIET PRESS AND RADIO (OCTOBER 30 AND 31)

Summary - While continuing to present the image of the Soviet Union as peacemaker as a result of its "statesmanlike" action in Cuba, Soviet domestic propaganda on October 31 added the warning note that "irresponsible" persons in the United States were still attempting to prevent relaxation of the situation and were attempting "fresh provocations." Senators Capehart and Goldwater were mentioned in this connection as well as anti-Castro rebels in the US. No explicit admission that rocket bases had been established in Cuba has been made in domestic propaganda (although it has been admitted in broadcasts to Cuba). Some low level comment was heard in Soviet regional broadcasts concerning the desirability of eliminating US rocket bases in countries near the Soviet Union, such as Turkey, but such "swap" proposals were not emphasized. Jamming appeared to be somewhat irregular but several VOA news items on Cuba were allowed through on most broadcasts.

Investigative Calls for Ending the US "Blockade" - Izvestiya for October 30 printed an article from its two special correspondents in New York, Drachinsky and Kondrashov, in which they state that the temporary lifting of the "blockade" against Cuba "has only emphasized the necessity of ending it once and for all." The correspondents continued that "tension, though considerably reduced, has not disappeared altogether," and that the American press was now trying to create the impression that the next step was up to the Russians. "The next step should be the cancellation of US military preparations and the lifting of the blockade," they concluded.

Moscow Radio Warns That Cuba's Security Must be Observed - In a domestic broadcast on October 31 Radio Moscow, after first giving credit to the Soviet Union for averting nuclear war, warned that "some short sighted people in the US" have evaluated the Soviet dismantling guarantee "in their own way" and are thinking about "further provocations" against Cuba. The Soviet radio commentator ended by saying that if the US continues its economic and political isolation of Cuba and leaves the Cuban revolutionaries free to continue their activities, the solution of the crisis caused by the American actions in the Caribbean area will be "aggravated."

Pravda Charges That "Irresponsible Persons" in US Prevent Relaxation of Tension - A Pravda article on October 31, reviewed by Tacc, claimed that "several irresponsible persons" in the US are still calling for invasion of Cuba and are trying to prevent relaxation of tensions. The US pledge to respect the integrity of Cuba is, therefore, "acquiring special importance," the article stated. Continuing that "a forgery alleging that Cuba is organizing terroristic actions in Latin America" is also being launched in the US the article stated that the authors of this forgery leave no room for doubt concerning their intentions.

Jamming - VOA reports that the pattern of jamming on October 31 was irregular but that on most VOA news broadcasts items concerning the U Thant-Castro meeting and the temporary suspension of the US quarantine were not jammed.

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